

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 246

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring Paul Leroy Robeson.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2003

Mr. RUSH submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring Paul Leroy Robeson.

Whereas April 9, 2001, was the 103d anniversary of the birth of Paul Leroy Robeson;

Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson lost his mother, Anna, in a household fire and was reared in humble circumstances as one of 5 children in a single-parent household by his father, William Drew Robeson, a Presbyterian minister who graduated from Lincoln University;

Whereas despite difficult circumstances, as a child Paul Leroy Robeson showed significant promise as an honor student, thespian, and athlete;

Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson was a member of both the Phi Beta Kappa and Cap and Skull honor societies at Rutgers University and graduated in 1919 with letters in basketball, baseball, discus, shot put, football, and javelin;

Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson graduated from Columbia Law School in 1923, but found the legal profession so resistant to African American lawyers that he embarked on a career in the theater and arts which brought him world renown; and

Whereas Paul Leroy Robeson became an advocate for the rights of African Americans and other oppressed people, and in so doing sacrificed his career as a world-renowned actor and singer: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—
- 3 (1) a commemorative postage stamp should be
- 4 issued by the United States Postal Service honoring
- 5 Paul Leroy Robeson; and
- 6 (2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
- 7 should recommend to the Postmaster General that
- 8 such a stamp be issued.

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